BODLEIANA

AN Accommodation of the Matters in Diſpute, concerning the Delegacy of the Preſs, having (in the preſent Condition of the Univerſity Printing-Houſe) been thought extremely deſirable, it was ſome time ago declared, by the preſent Vice-Chancellor, that He would be ready to relinquiſh the *negative* Power claimed by himſelf and his Predeceſſor; provided the Proctors would conſent to ſubmit the *abſolute* Nomination, which they claimed, to the Controul of the Houſe of Convocation.

This Propoſal the Junior Proctor (to whom it was communicated) thought to be very reaſonable; though he concurred with his Predeceſſors in Opinion, with regard to the Rights of his Office, as the Statutes at preſent ſtand. But, as there might ariſe ſome Difficulties in wording a new Statute, which ſhould be calculated to remedy all Defects, and to prevent any future Diſputes, he propoſed to the Vice-Chancellor, that one or more Heads of Houſes and an equal Number of other Members of Convocation ſhould meet the Vice-Chancellor and Proctors, in order to ſettle the Draught of a Statute, to be firſt propoſed to the hebdomadal Meeting of the Heads and Proctors, and afterwards to the Body of the Univerſity, in the Order preſcribed by Tit. x. Sect. 2. §. 2. of the Statutes.

This the Vice-Chancellor declined; and declared that he himſelf would prepare a Statute for that Purpoſe; in which the Proctor readily acquieſced; but told the Vice-Chancellor he hoped there might ſtill be a Liberty of propoſing any Amendments, if ſuch Draught ſhould be thought defective. To which, he underſtood, the Vice-Chancellor gave his Conſent.

The Vice-Chancellor, in a ſhort time afterwards, communicated to the Proctors the Draught, marked A. Which, upon Peruſal by ſeveral

Members of Convocation, not being thought ſufficiently full and explicit, the Junior Proctor in a few Days very reſpectfully ſignified the ſame to the Vice-Chancellor; and returned him his own Draught, together with another (marked B.) in which the ſuppoſed Deficiencies were endeavoured to be ſupplied and amended.

At their next Meeting (to his great Surpriſe and Concern) the Vice-Chancellor informed him that he looked upon himſelf to be extremely ill uſed by this Tender of the amended Statute, and was determined to have no farther Concern in it. And, though the Proctor requeſted to know the Vice-Chancellor's particular Objections to the ſeveral Amendments, or any of them, in order to diſcard ſuch as ſhould appear to be juſtly exceptionable; yet he has ſtill the Mortification only to find in general, that he has undeſignedly given Offence to a Gentleman, for whoſe public Station and acknowledged Learning he entertains the ſincereſt Reſpect.

In this Situation the Proctor has been adviſed to lay before the Members of Convocation the two ſeveral Draughts above-mentioned; (to which the Vice-Chancellor has given his Conſent;) that the Univerſity may judge for themſelves with regard to the Propriety of each; and that it may appear, at the Cloſe of his Office, how deſirous he has been to make any reaſonable Conceſſions; in order to ſettle this diſputed Point, which he thinks of ſome Importance, upon a firm and laſting Foundation; and to remove that unhappy Difference of Opinion, which (however well grounded on either Side) muſt, while it continues, fruſtrate all Endeavours to reſtore the Reputation of the Oxford Preſs.

March 30, 1757.

A

CUM res Typographica, quam in omne ævum hic loci feliciter adminiſtrandam fore ſperamus, melius per ſtatos et perpetuos Delegatos expediatur, neque de hujuſmodi Delegatorum nominatione in noſtris Statutis ſatis proviſum eſſe videatur.

Placuit Academiæ ſtatuere et decernere, ut præſentibus Delegatis, nempe Domino Doctori Niblet Coll. Omn. Anim. Cuſtodi &c. &c. ſubjungantur Mr. Owen è Coll. Jeſu, et —— è Coll. —— qui ſimul cum Vice-Cancellario et Procuratoribus recipiant et reddant rationem de receptis et expenſis et de aliis omnibus

omnibus ad rem Typographicam ſpectantibus (de quibus non aliter in Statutis proviſum fuerit) proſpiciant et tranſigant.

Quod ſi quos e ſtatis hiſce Delegatis fatis concedere, vel alias Univerſitate excedere contingat, alii continuò in ipſorum locum ſubrogentur, per Procuratores cum approbatione et conſenſu Domûs Convocationis nominandi.

Hi autem Delegati, quamprimùm nominati fuerint, in ipſa Convocatione, ſi præſentes fuerint; alioqui coram Vice-Cancellario, exigente Seniore Proçuratore ſinguli Juramentum præſtabunt in hæc verba,

" Tu jurabis quod, legitime de die, horâ et loco præmonitus, Vice-Cancel-
" lario aderis in negotiis ad rem Typographicam ſpectantibus; nec aberis, niſi
" ex causâ per Vice-Cancellarium et Procuratores antea vel poſtea approbanda.

" Item, quod audies ſtrictum et fidelem Computum, et reliqua omnia, quæ
" ad Officium Delegatorum Preli pertinent, ſedulo et diligenter exequeris.

B

De Delegatorum Præli Nominatione et Munere.

CUM Res typographica, quam ſi omnia ævum hic foret feliciter adminiſtrandam fore ſperamus, melius per ſtatos et perpetuos Delegatos expediatur; neque de hujuſmodi Delegatorum Nominatione et Munere in noſtris ſtatutis ſatis proviſum eſſe videatur:

Placuit Academiæ ſtatuere et decernere, ut Delegatis pridem nominatis, nempe Domino Doctori N. &c. ſubjungantur Mr. Owen è Coll. Jeſu, & —— e Coll. ——; quos, una cum Vice-Cancellario et Procuratoribus pro tempore exiſtentibus, ſtatos et perpetuos Præli Delegatos fore volumus.

Quorum quidem Delegatorum Munus eſto, " Rationem inire, qua ampliſ-
" ſima noſtra Imprimendi Privilegia in majorem Academiæ Utilitatem redeant
" et Honorem; Ordinationes typographicas condere; MSS. Bibliothecæ Codices,
" prout ipſis viſum fuerit, Luce publicâ donare; Pecunias et Proventus omnes
" in uſum Præli deſtinatos erogare; Rem typographicam in univerſum procu-
" rare; et coram ſtatis Delegatis Computi Rationem de Receptis et Expenſis
" quotannis reddere *." Ad quod Munus ſuſcipiendum, et ſuſceptum ſedulò

* The Duties of a Delegate of the Preſs, here deſcribed, are taken from the ſeveral Decrees of Convocation in 1633, 1637, 1653, and 1662; and are, for the moſt part, expreſſed in the ſame Words.

exequendum,

exequendum, Singuli ritè nominati, et per Domum Convocationis approbati, Se fide datâ Univerſitati firmiter teneri noverint.

Quo vero hæc Negotia melius et accuratius peragantur, ſtatuimus et decernimus quòd in poſterum primo die Mercurii in quolibet Menſe, horâ decimâ ante meridiem, (vel ſæpius, ſi Vice-Cancellario expedire videbitur) Delegati prædicti apud Typographeum Clarendonianum conveniant; et quicquid ipſis vel ſex eorum placuerit pro rato et decreto habeatur; ac deinceps Regiſtro peculiari inferatur, et Chirographis conſentientium obſignetur.

Quod ſi quem e ſtatis octo Delegatis in poſterum fatis concedere, vel alias Univerſitate excedere, vel ſe cum conſenſu Domus Convocationis Officio abdicare, vel munus denique Delegati Computi in ſe ſuſcipere contingat, alius continuo in ipſius locum hâc formâ ſubrogetur; ſcilicet, Procuratores Virum aliquem gravem, eruditum, et ad hoc munus habilem et idoneum, in frequenti Convocatione nominent; quem Dominus Vice-Cancellarius in proximâ Convocatione poſt hujuſmodi Nominationem venerabili Domui proponere teneatur; et ſi Majori Parti Convocationis viſum fuerit hujuſmodi Nominationem comprobare, exinde Nominatus in Numerum Delegatorum referatur; ſin minus, pro non Delegato habeatur, et in ſequenti aliquâ Convocatione Procuratores ad novam Nominationem ſe accingant.

In novis vero Delegatis ſubrogandis ſemper poſthac caveri volumus, ut (quantum fieri poteſt) Delegatio conſtet ex tribus in S. S. Theologia Doctoribus, uno in Jure civili, unoque in Medicina Doctore, et tribus demum Magiſtris regentibus vel non regentibus; (inter quos alicujus Facultatis Baccalaureos, qui prius in Artibus rexerint, omnino cen[illegible] ſtatuimus). Ita tamen, ut ſi aliquis Magiſtrorum prius ſubrogatorum ad gradum Doctoratus promoveatur, Locus ejus minimè vacare reputabitur; In omni autem ſubrogatione ex iſtis facultatibus vel earum aliquâ ſumatur Delegatus, quarum numerus legitimus tunc temporis deficere reperiatur.

F I N I S.